

**From:** EIR Compliance

**To:**

**Subject:** 20250402 - EIR - Data Supplied

**Date:** 08 April 2025 08:17:00

Reference Number: **EIR**

Dear

I refer to your request for information submitted to Yorkshire Water dated 11 February 2025:

*“Under the EIR 2004, please provide us with a list of any and all environmental reports, investigations or case studies that Yorkshire Water holds (whether or not it authored or commissioned these) on the Lindley Wood and Grimwith Reservoirs dating*

*back to 1995. We request that the list includes the full title, date and author(s) for each document.”*

We wrote to you on the 14 February 2025 to seek further clarification:

*“Thank you for your request under the EIR 2004 concerning environmental reports, investigations, or case studies held by*

*Yorkshire Water on the Lindley Wood and Grimwith Reservoirs dating back to 1995. In order to process your request more effectively, could you please provide further clarification on the following points:*

- 1. Are you seeking reports that are limited in scope to the confines of the reservoir themselves?*
- 2. Are you interested in specific types of environmental reports that are focussed on ecological assessments/investigations (i.e invasive non-native species, biodiversity assessments/investigations) or are there other types of reporting you are interested in"*

*Thank you for the further clarification provided via return email on the 14 February to confirm your request was for "please can you provide a list of the reports, investigations, or case studies available which cover the confines of the reservoir themselves. This should include any reports, investigations, or case studies on works performed at the reservoirs (including works to the outlet/spillways of the reservoirs)."*

After careful consideration, we are writing to inform you that your request for environmental information has been partially refused in accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) 2004. In accordance with section 12(5) paragraph (a) of the EIR, a public authority may refuse to disclose information to the extent that its disclosure would adversely affect international relations, defence, national security or public safety. In applying this exemption, we must consider the potential harm that could result from releasing the requested information and weigh it against the public interest in disclosure. We have to treat disclosure of information under the Environmental Information Regulations (EIRs) as disclosure to the 'world at large'.

Whilst we appreciate it would be beneficial to obtain this data, we have to consider the wider public interest in disclosure, based on this. It is our belief that disclosing information could potentially pose a risk to national security. This is because safeguarding national security includes the protection of potential targets, even if there is no evidence that an attack is imminent. The information you have requested forms part of the Critical National Infrastructure (CNI) of this country and could be perceived as a potential target for such an attack. In addition to this, we also have to consider the guidance issued to us by DEFRA on what we can make available in the public domain in relation to our Critical National Infrastructure (CNI). We recognise the importance of transparency and accountability, and we have carefully considered whether the public interest in disclosure outweighs the potential harm. However, we believe that in this case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

In addition to this, we are writing to inform you that your request for environmental information has been partially refused in accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) 2004. Under Regulation 12(3), this refusal is based on the grounds that the requested information constitutes personal data relating to an individual other than the applicant. Protecting the privacy and personal data of individuals is a fundamental principle, and as such, the provision of this information would contravene the data protection principles set out in Regulation 13. Regulation 13 stipulates that personal data shall not be disclosed if the release of such information would contravene any of the data protection principles in the UK GDPR or the Data Protection Act 2018. While we strive to provide as much information as possible in response to environmental information

requests, we must also balance this with our obligation to protect personal data. Therefore, the specific details that include personal data of a person other than the applicant cannot be released. In considering your request, we are satisfied that one of the authors names amount to personal data as recorded above and as such will not provide this information.

Please find attached the data which you have requested. Included with this email are a list of reports, investigations, or case studies which cover the confines of the reservoir themselves. This includes any reports, investigations, or case studies on works performed at the reservoirs (including works to the outlet/spillways of the reservoirs):

<b><u>Title</u></b>	<b><u>Author</u></b>	<b><u>File Date</u></b>
Environmental DNA (eDNA) metabarcoding at Grimwith Reservoir (2019)	Hull University	2019
Routine INNS reservoir surveillance Monitoring (2024)	AECOM	2024
GRIMWITH Assessment of System Yield	City of Bradford Water Department	10/08/2003
GRIMWITH Grout Curtain Testing	Redacted	10/08/2003
GRIMWITH INSPECTION OF HYDRAULIC PIEZOMETERS Nov 2006	SOIL MECHANICS	20/11/2006
AMP6 Fish Pass Investigations – 2014 –2018 Fisheries Assessments	The University of Hull International Fisheries Institute	2014-2018

GRIMWITH IRE NETWORK TRANSIENT ANALYSIS	Atkins	26/08/2009
Lindley Wood Reservoir Protected Species Report	Mott MacDonald	12/11/2018
Lindley Wood Reservoir Preliminary Ecological Appraisal	Mott MacDonald	15/11/2018
Lindley Wood Spillway Delivery	MMB	25/02/2019

I trust that the provision of this data satisfies your request. In accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, if you are not satisfied with this reply to your request you can ask for an internal review. A request for an internal review must be submitted within 40 working days by contacting the Data Protection Team.

Thank you for contacting Yorkshire Water.

Yours sincerely,

Data Protection Team

Email: [EIR@Yorkshirewater.co.uk](mailto:EIR@Yorkshirewater.co.uk)